

Appl. No.10/773,788

Attorney Docket No.: 113394 CON

## CLAIMS

1-11. Cancelled

12. (Previously Presented) A gatekeeper for use in a communication system,  
said gatekeeper comprising  
a processor; and  
a memory coupled to said processor, said memory storing instructions adapted  
to be executed by said processor for performing the steps of:  
(a) receiving at said gatekeeper from an associated communicating  
terminal a request for information;  
(b) if the requested information is known by said gatekeeper, providing  
the requested information to said associated communicating terminal;  
(c) receiving at said gatekeeper from a second gatekeeper a request for  
information that is not known by said gatekeeper;  
(d) sending the request that was received from the second gatekeeper to  
a third gatekeeper  
(e) receiving from the third gatekeeper the information requested by the  
second gatekeeper; and  
(f) sending to the second gatekeeper the information received from the  
third gatekeeper.

13. Cancelled

14. Cancelled.

15. (Original) The invention of claim 12 wherein the requested information is  
an address.

16. (Original) The invention of claim 15 wherein said address is an application  
address, a network address or a resource address.

Appl. No.10/773,788

Attorney Docket No.: 113394 CON

1 17. (Original) The invention of claim 12 wherein the requested information is  
2 information about a resource.

1 18. (Original) The invention of claim 17 wherein said resource is one of:  
2 bandwidth, a port, a buffer, a link, a trunk, processing unit capacity, and a quality-of-  
3 service parameter.

1 19. (Previously Presented) The invention of claim 12 wherein said gatekeeper  
2 is adapted to use signaling messages conforming to International Telecommunications  
3 Union standard H.323 to receive and transmit information between itself and said  
4 second and third gatekeepers and to communicate with said gatekeeper's associated  
5 communicating terminal.

20-27. Cancelled

1 28. (Previously Presented) The invention of claim 12 wherein said gatekeeper  
2 is adapted to cache the information received from the third gatekeeper so that if said  
3 gatekeeper is again requested for said information, it will be able to provide said  
4 information to the source of the request.

29-38. Cancelled.